

midshipmen by bringing works of literature to the stage. By engaging the Brigade of Midshipmen with complex moral issues and portrayals of human nature, the Masqueraders have helped prepare generations of future officers for the challenges of military leadership.

While midshipmen produced theater pieces in the nineteenth century, the Masqueraders formally organized in 1907 with the approval of the Commandant of Midshipmen. That year, under the leadership of Midshipmen First Class Kirkwood H. Donavin, William B. Piersol, and Frank W. Townsend, the Masqueraders began an unbroken series of annual performances that have educated midshipmen up to the present day. Productions have ranged from Greek tragedies and comedies to classics of the modern stage. Highlights of the group's century of service include a 1974 American College Theater Festival production of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, invited to play at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater and honored by the Chief of Naval Operations, and a critically acclaimed 1983 compilation of Shakespeare history plays.

Madam Speaker, we should especially acknowledge Professors Michael Jasperson, David White, and Anne Marie Drew, for their vision and dedication as Masqueraders directors from 1960 to 2001. We should also recognize the current director, Professor Christy Stanlake; co-presidents, Midshipmen First Class Joy Dewey and David Smestuen; and Officer Representative, Commander Mark Larabee. Finally, we should acknowledge the key support provided by the English Department Chair, Professor Allyson Booth, and the Director of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, Colonel David Mollahan.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting that we honor the Masqueraders for their century of commitment to the power of theater to prepare midshipmen for leadership in peace and war. In honor of Masqueraders' support of the mission of the Naval Academy, the people of the United States of America wish them all success for another hundred years of service to the Brigade of Midshipmen, our Navy and Marine Corps, and our country.

GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Cancer Society's 31st annual Great American Smokeout—a day when smokers across the Nation mark the event by cutting back, forsaking cigarettes for the day, or perhaps quitting altogether.

I'm proud that in my Congressional district, all the hospitals—which already prohibit smoking indoors—will today be extending their smoke-free zones and prohibit the use of tobacco products anywhere on their campuses. This includes outside entrances, walkways, parking lots and garages. Patients, visitors, and hospital employees are covered by this policy. These medical institutions, which treat many diseases that result from use of tobacco products, are taking a critical step that will

lead to patients, visitors, and staff reducing and hopefully quitting the use of tobacco products. By taking this action, the hospitals in my community will lead by example in our efforts to reduce tobacco use.

The toll of tobacco in America is devastating, with 440,000 people dying prematurely each year from tobacco use. Tobacco use is the cause of at least 30 percent of all cancer deaths and 87 percent of lung cancer deaths. Secondhand smoke is a major health hazard—3,000 otherwise healthy nonsmokers nationwide will die of lung cancer annually because of their exposure to secondhand smoke.

In Maryland, there will be more than 4,000 new cases of lung cancer diagnosed this year and there will be nearly 3,000 lung cancer deaths. In addition to the thousands of lives lost to diseases caused by tobacco products, the annual direct and indirect health care costs in the U.S. caused by tobacco use is approximately \$194 billion.

As people across the country begin to attempt to conquer tobacco addiction on this Great American Smokeout day, Congress must continue to do its part on reducing the addiction to tobacco. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and pass H.R. 1108, the Family Smoking Prevention and Control Act. This bill would grant the FDA the authority to regulate tobacco products and the marketing of those products, which the tobacco industry has shamelessly marketed to our Nation's youth to create lifetime smokers and consumers of their deadly products.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the hospitals in my congressional district for becoming smoke-free zones and commend the American Cancer Society for their efforts in reducing America's addiction to tobacco products.

HONORING DONALD W. CAMPBELL

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to respectfully request that my colleagues join me in congratulating Donald W. Campbell for being named the National Parks Conservation Association 2007 recipient of the Steven Tyng Mather Award.

Don Campbell has been a tireless advocate and ambassador for Harper's Ferry National Historic Park for nearly thirty years. When he arrived at Harper's Ferry as Superintendent, Don was a self-described "peace, love, and let's everybody get along," laid-back Californian. Since then, he has forged relationships of mutual trust and understanding with the communities that surround his park and has touched many with his strong values and steady leadership.

Don's service, leadership, and advocacy for the protection of Harper's Ferry National Historic Park exemplify what it means to be a steward of America's national parks. For more than twenty years, the National Parks Conservation Association has proudly presented the annual Steven Tyng Mather Award to a National Park Service employee who has

worked tirelessly to protect our national parks. His contribution to the Harper's Ferry National Historic Park will always be appreciated and I am pleased that he is being recognized for his service to our community.

In closing, I want to thank my colleagues for joining me in recognizing Donald W. Campbell as the 2007 Steven Tyng Mather Award winner for his dedication to protecting this scenic and historic jewel.

911 MODERNIZATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation to update and improve 911 services for today's technology.

Improving public safety is a constant struggle, as I have learned working on improving 911 services for the Houston area and the entire state of Texas as a state legislator, and I want to thank Mr. GORDON for his work on this legislation, both in introducing it and for working with all involved parties throughout the process to create a bill with such broad support.

In June 2005, after it received reports about the inability of some Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) customers to access 911 services, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued regulations requiring VoIP providers to automatically provide 911 services to their customers, and to route these calls with a call-back number and the caller's registered location, either directly or through a third-party.

After trying to address this issue for several years, I hope we can send a bill to the President this Congress addressing VoIP E911. The purpose of H.R. 3403 is to ensure that consumers using VoIP services to place phone calls have access to E911, by giving VoIP providers access to 911 infrastructure and by extending existing liability protections to VoIP service.

This bill requires VoIP providers to provide 911 service and E911 service to its subscribers in accordance with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations. It allows VoIP to access the nation's existing 911 infrastructure, which is largely operated by their competitors, traditional telephone companies. VoIP companies will also be permitted to access existing 911 infrastructure not only to deliver 911 calls, but also to provide location and call-back information for those calls.

Customers using VoIP services expect to access 911 services just as wireless and wireline customers do, and this legislation ensures it is parallel with those services when it comes to E911 regulations and requirements.

I strongly support this legislation to improve public safety, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.